

a solenoid;  
a valve closing member;  
a valve needle adapted to be acted upon in a closing direction by a return spring to actuate the valve closing member, which, together with a valve seat surface, forms a sealing seat;  
an armature connected to the valve needle in a friction-locked manner;  
a first guide sleeve connected to the valve needle;  
a second guide sleeve, wherein the valve needle is connected to the second guide sleeve in a friction-locked manner; and  
an armature situated between the first guide sleeve and the second guide sleeve such that it can move freely in an axial direction, wherein the armature has a central opening whose diameter is greater than the diameter of the valve needle, and wherein the armature has radial play with respect to the valve needle.

16. (New) The fuel injector according to Claim 15, wherein the first guide sleeve is situated on a supply-side face of the armature, and the second guide sleeve is situated on a discharge-side face of the armature.

17. (New) The fuel injector according to Claim 15, wherein the first guide sleeve and the second guide sleeve are welded to the valve needle.

18. (New) The fuel injector according to Claim 15, wherein the return spring is supported on the first guide sleeve.

19. (New) The fuel injector according to Claim 15, wherein the valve needle protrudes through the armature via the central opening.

20. (New) The fuel injector according to Claim 15, wherein the valve needle is rotationally mounted in the sealing seat.

21. (New) The fuel injector according to Claim 20, wherein the valve needle is axially symmetric.

22. (New) The fuel injector according to Claim 16, wherein a first gap exists between the supply-side face of the armature and the first guide sleeve.